

BROMSGROVE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1939.



## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

- (a) A.B.Follows, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
 Medical Officer of Health Part time.

Assistant M.O.H.	)	
Assistant School M.O.	)	Under the direction of,
Tuberculosis Officer	)	and paid by, the County
Inspector of Midwives	)	Council.
Health Visitors and Nurses.	)	

- (b) H.Holden, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,  
 R.S.I. Meat & Food Certificate.  
 Liverpool University Meat & Food Certificate.

Senior Sanitary Inspector  
 Meat & Food Inspector  
 Shops Inspector  
 Petroleum Officer.

E.Stansfield, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., R.S.I. Meat & Food Certificate.  
 (Until 30th June, 1939)

✕ D.S.Smith, Cert S.I.B. (From 18th September)

W.Carter, Cert S.I.B. (Clerk)

R.H.K.Howse (Clerk) (From 6th September).

## DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS:-

A.J.Rao, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

M.I.Dick, M.B., Ch. B. (Rednal and Barnt Green)

## PUBLIC VACCINATORS:-

A.J.Rao, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

M.I.Dick, M.B., Ch. B.

✕ Called up for Military Service 15th November, 1939.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROMSGROVE URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my fourth Annual Report on the Health of the Bromsgrove Urban District for the year 1939.

In view of the increasing pressure of work in the Public Health Departments of Local Authorities, and the need for strict economy in the use of paper, the Minister considers interim reports only should be made for the year 1939. This report will, therefore, be confined to essential and urgent matters only.

There were a few staff changes during the year. Mr. E. Stansfield the Assistant Sanitary Inspector resigned in June, 1939, and Mr. D.S. Smith was appointed in September, and an additional clerk was also appointed in this month. Unfortunately Mr. Smith was called up for Military Service in November.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and the Council's Officers for their valued co-operation during the year.

SECTION A.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

area - 9248 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of

(a) resident population, mid - 1939 - 23,890
"                  "          mid - 1938 - 23,540
"                  "          mid - 1937 - 23,180
"                  "

(b) average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates - 24,230.

Number of inhabited houses	-	end of 1939	-	7082		
"	"	"	-	end of 1938	-	6902
"	"	"	-	end of 1937	-	6712

Rateable value, 1st April 1939 - £124,644

Sum represented by a Penny Rate - £480

The information given in my last report concerning social conditions and the industries carried on in the District, is still applicable.

I am grateful to Mr. Lowe (Manager of the Ministry of Labour Employment Exchange) for the following report.

In July, 1939, the total insured population living in the Bromsgrove area, was 7,850, made up as follows:-

		Percentage unemployed.	
		as at 3.7.39	as at 11.12.39
		Wholly	Short time workers.
Men:	5.150 ...	1.3	1.7
Women:	1.300 ...	1.2	1.2
Boys:	..		
Girls:	1.400 ..	0.3	0.7

3,000 of these were working in Birmingham.

The Wholly Unemployed figure remained very stable during the year, actually the figure on 11.12.39 shows an increase of only three on the figure shown on 2.1.39. The lowest point touched was on 5.6.39 figure being 78.

As regards the Temporarily Stopped file, there was a marked increase on the outbreak of war from 82 to 498, but this figure declined to 174 on 11.12.39. This itself, was an increase of 84 compared with the figure on 13.11.39 and was chiefly due to a suspension of three to four days at an engineering works.

Bad weather conditions affecting the Building Trade and the cessation of a large building contract locally were responsible for a large temporary increase in Christmas week.

It is anticipated that there will be a shortage of labour, particularly in the engineering industry, during 1940.

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births:	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate ..	447	245	202	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid 1939 - 19.2
Illegitimate ..	12	6	6	
Total .. ..	459	251	208	

Still Births	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate	14	10	4	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 30.2
Illegitimate	-	-	-	

Deaths .. ..	265	149	116	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population - 10.9
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#### Deaths from Puerperal causes:-

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
Other Puerperal causes	1	2.2
Total .. ..	1	2.2

#### Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	56.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	55.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	83.3

Deaths from Cancer (All ages)	..	..	..	- 42.
" " Measles (All ages)	..	..	..	- 0.
" " Whooping Cough (All ages) ..	..	..	..	- 1.
" " Diarrhoea (Under two years of age)	..	..	..	- 2.

## SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

## LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory facilities are the same as those given in my previous report.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For Infectious Cases, Ambulance provided by Joint Hospital Board.

For Non-Infectious, Accident and Maternity cases, a motor ambulance maintained and run by the Local Branch of the Red Cross.

The Service in the area is adequate and efficient.

## NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Bromsgrove and District Nursing Association provide 2 district midwives for Catshill and part of Lickey, 1 Queen's Nurse and 1 district midwife for Rubery, 2 Queen's Nurses and 2 district midwives for Bromsgrove, and 1 district midwife for Barnt Green and Cofton. Two cars have been provided.

There is no nursing provided for Infectious cases by the County Council or the Local Authority.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Particulars of these are tabulated below:-

Clinic	Situation	Accommodation	Provided by	Time of holding.
Bromsgrove Infant Welfare Centre.	Drill Hall.	1 large and 2 small rooms.	County Council.	Wednesday 2.0 p.m.
Catshill Infant Welfare Centre.	Baptist Chapel.	1 large and 1 small room.	County Council.	Friday 2.0 p.m.
Rubery Infant Welfare Centre.	St. Chad's Church Hall.	1 large and 2 small rooms.	County Council.	Thursday 2.0 p.m.
Bromsgrove Ante-Natal Clinic.	Drill Hall.	2 small rooms.	County Council	2nd & 4th Friday in month. 2.0 p.m.
General Clinic Bromsgrove.	Drill Hall.	2 small rooms.	County Council.	Wednesday 10.0 a.m.
Dental Clinic.	Drill Hall.	1 large and 2 small rooms.	County Council.	As arranged.



Clinic	Situation.	Accommodation.	Provided by.	Time of holding.
Tuberculosis	Church Street Bromsgrove.	2 rooms.	County Council.	Tuesday 2.30 p.m.
Rubery Ante-Natal Clinic.	St. Chad's Church Hall.	1 large and 2 small rooms.	County Council	1st & 3rd Thursday in month 10.0 a.m.
Diphtheria Immunization.	Bromsgrove Infant Welfare Centre.		County Council.	2nd & 4th Wednesdays in month 10.0 a.m.


## BIRTH CONTROL.

Arrangements are made with the County Council by which suitable cases are referred to the Birmingham Welfare Centre for advice.

## HOSPITALS (PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY).

The following Hospitals are available to Bromsgrove residents:-

Hospital	Name.	Situated.	By whom provided.
General	Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital.	Bromsgrove.	Voluntary.
Infectious Disease.	Bromsgrove, Droitwich & Redditch, Joint Hospital.	Hill Top, Bromsgrove.	Under joint control.
Tuberculosis.	Ditto and Knightwick.	Ditto and Knightwick	County Council.
Smallpox.	W.C.C. Smallpox Hospital.	Worcester.	W.C.C.
Maternity.	Mary Stevens. Lucy Baldwin.	Stourbridge. Stourport.	W.C.C W.C.C.
Children.	Children's Hospital.	Birmingham.	By arrangement with County Council.
Tonsils and Adenoids.	Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital.	Bromsgrove.	By arrangement with County Council.
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.	General Hospital. Royal Infirmary.	Birmingham. Worcester.	By arrangement with County Council.



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Hospital	Name	Situated.	By whom provided.
Institution General	Public Assistance Institution.	Bromsgrove.	W.C.C.
Mental	Barnsley Hall.	Bromsgrove	W.C.C.

Structural alterations are still in progress at the Joint Isolation Hospital which serves five County Districts.

## SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.WATER SUPPLY.

There is no alteration in the information concerning boreholes and reservoirs given in my last report.

During 1939, 17 samples of the public water supply were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination and the result of each sample was satisfactory. The following is a copy of one of the reports on a sample, received from the Public Analyst:-

Report upon a sample of Borehole Water contained in a W.Qt. bottle sealed, marked Burcot, Lambert. Received from Mr. F.H.Bullock, Engineer, of 21, Stourbridge Street, Bromsgrove, on the 16th August, 1939.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:-

PHYSICAL CHARACTERS. Clear, odourless  
Deposit, slight brown.  
p.H. 7.0

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION. (Results expressed in parts per 100,000)

Solids in Suspension. (Dried at 100°C)	..	..	..	Trace
Solids in Solution (Dried at 100°C)	..	..	..	19
" " After Ignition	..	..	..	15
Chlorides Calculated as common salt	..	..	..	2.8
Hardness Permanent	..	..	..	7
" Temporary	..	..	..	5
" Total	..	..	..	12
Free and Saline Ammonia	..	..	..	0.002
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	..	0.0008
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	..	..	..	Trace.
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	..	..	..	None.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	..	..	..	None.
Toxic Metals	..	..	..	None detected

Note. To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar:-

(a) In two days at 37°C	..	..	..	..	..	nil per one m.l.
(b) In three days at 22°C	..	..	..	..	..	4 per " "
Coli-Aerogenes (presumptive coli) count	..	..	..	..	..	Nil per 100 "
Cl. Welchii	..	..	..	..	..	" per 250 "
Streptococci	..	..	..	..	..	Not detected.

OPINION:- The sample is of good quality and fit for drinking.

(Signed) H.E.MONK,  
County Analyst and Bacteriologist.

28th August, 1939.

The following is a list of mains extensions carried out during 1939 :-

120 yds	3"	&	12yds	4"	main, Brook Road.
50 "	3"	main, Stratridge Road.			
50 "	4"	&	3"	main, Holesowen Road, Lydiat Ash.	
20 "	3"	main, Holly Road, Sidemoor.			
235 "	3"	"	Upland Estate, Norton.		
50 "	3"	"	Marlbrook Lane.		
40 "	3"	"	Alvechurch Highway, Lydiat Ash.		



## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year, subsidiary sewers were laid in the following roads.

School Lane.  
 Little Heath Lane.  
 Alcester Road, Lickey End.  
 Staple Hill.  
 Staple Flat.

49 existing houses were provided with new drainage to the sewers and the cesspools which formerly served them were abolished.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Spadesbourne Brook, which runs through the town, has been cleaned out periodically throughout the year.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

## SHOPS.

Details of work done in connection with the above will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse collection and disposal is supervised by the Surveyor. The local authority do not undertake the emptying of cesspools, except in the vicinity of the town.

The following figures have been supplied to me by the Surveyor:-

House refuse collected during 1939.

Loads from bins	1178
Loads from ashpits	321
Ashpits cleansed	389
Loads of night soil.	581
Privies cleansed.	446
Loads from bins by S.D. Freighter.	663 $\frac{1}{2}$

## CAMPING SITES.

No licenses were issued during the year under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints of smoke nuisance were received during 1939, and no observations were made.

## SWIMMING BATHS.

The swimming bath has not been in use during the year, the Council having decided to close it. I hope it will be found possible before very long to open a new bath, or failing that, to recondition the old one, providing an up to date filtration and chlorination plant.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year, six privately owned houses were found to be infected with bed bugs.

All these houses were dealt with by spraying with "Zaldocide", where necessary the treatment being repeated after an interval of about a fortnight. The cost of the insecticide was in each case charged to the owner of the property.

The furniture of 149 families from slum clearance areas or overcrowded houses was treated with hydrogen cyanide gas prior to removal to Council Houses. The work was carried out by a fumigation Contractor.

#### SCHOOLS.

The Education Authority were approached regarding the use of drinking cups in common by the scholars at Finstall School. Drinking fountains were installed as a result of this action.

### SECTION D.

#### HOUSING.

The housing of Slum Clearance families from the areas confirmed by the Minister in 1938 proceeded satisfactorily during the year, the whole of the families being rehoused during this period. A large number of unfit houses still remain to be dealt with, but this action has had to be suspended owing to the outbreak of war.

The total number of houses owned by the Council is now 801 (end of 1939).

The following table gives a summary of the work done under the Housing Acts:-

Houses erected:	(a) By Local Authority	.. .. .	222
	(b) By private enterprise or subsidy	.. .. .	132
1. (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects	.. .. .	177	
(b) Number (included above) inspected and recorded under the	.. .. .		
Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925.	.. .. .	35	
(c) Number of houses found unfit for habitation	.. .. .	1	
(d) Number of houses (excluding c.) not in all respects fit for	.. .. .		
habitation.	.. .. .	176	
2. Number of defective houses rendered fit after informal action.	.. .. .	68	
3. Housing Act, 1936, Sections 9, 10 and 16. (Statutory action)			
(a) Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served	.. .. .	0	
requiring repairs or defects remedied.	.. .. .		
(b) Number of dwellings subsequently rendered fit after notice by	.. .. .	3	
(a) The Owner	.. .. .	0	
(b) Local Authority in default of owner	.. .. .	0	
4. Public Health Acts. (Statutory Action)			
(a) Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served	.. .. .	1	
requiring repairs or defects remedied	.. .. .		
(b) Number of dwellings subsequently rendered fit after notice by	.. .. .	0	
(a) The Owner	.. .. .	0	
(b) Local Authority in default of owner.	.. .. .	0	
5. Housing Act, 1936, Sections 11 and 13.			
(a) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	.. .. .	8	
(b) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	.. .. .	5	
6. Housing Act, 1936, Section 12.			
(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of	.. .. .	0	
which Closing Orders were made	.. .. .		
(b) Number of Closing Orders determined, the tenement or room	.. .. .	0	
having been rendered fit	.. .. .		
7. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV.- Overcrowding.			
(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	.. .. .	89	
Number of families dwelling therein	.. .. .	101	
Number of persons dwelling therein	.. .. .	632 (580½ units)	
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	.. .. .	0	
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	.. .. .	36	
Number of persons concerned in each case	.. .. .	276	
(d) Particulars of any case in which dwelling-houses have again			
become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps	.. .. .	0	
for the abatement of overcrowding	.. .. .		

## SECTION E.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The inspection and supervision of food was carried out with the same vigour as in the previous year.

## (a) MILK SUPPLY.

The number of dairy farms in the district is 45. There are approximately 500 milking cows in the district.

As far as possible supervision has been maintained although much remains to be done in this direction.

The number of licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order is:-

	<u>Pasteurised</u>	<u>Accredited</u>	<u>Tuberculin Tested.</u>
Bottlers..	0	5	1
Retailers	1	3	0
Producers	0	6	2

40 samples were examined under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, all of which satisfied the requirements of the Order.

## (b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The whole of the slaughterhouses in the district (13) were inspected in detail under the provisions of the new Food and Drugs Act, and report was made to the Health Committee on the structural conditions etc. in February and March 1940, details of which will be given in my report for the year 1940.

During the year 786 visits were made to slaughterhouses, shops, stalls and food preparing premises.

The total weight of food surrendered as unfit for human consumption was 1 ton, 5 cwt, 1 qr, 14 lbs. The causes of condemnation will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

## (c) ADULTERATION ETC:

29 formal samples were obtained under the Food and Drugs Act: 3 samples of milk were reported upon adversely by the Public Analyst and proceedings were instituted, and a total fine of £8 and costs were inflicted.

## SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1939.

DISEASE	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.	CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.	TOTAL DEATHS.
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	141	111	3
Measles	3	0	0
Whooping Cough	3	0	0
Diphtheria	82	75	2
Enteric Fever (inc. Para-typhoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal pyrexia	8	5	0



DISEASE	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.	CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.	TOTAL DEATHS.
Pneumonia	18	1	1
Erysipelas	1	0	0
Ophthalmia neonatorum.	4	0	0
Cerebro-spinal fever.	1	1	0

#### VACCINATION.

The following table shows the number of children immunised at the various schools during the year:-

SCHOOL	M.	F.	TOTAL.
Stourbridge Road.	3	-	3
St. Peter's Roman Catholic School.	4	9	13
County High School.	4	10	14
Lickey End Council School.	2	4	6
St. Chads, Rubery.	2	4	6
Sidemoor Infants.	3	5	8
Finstall Council School.	9	10	19
Broms Grove Church of England School.	13	16	29
Lintaurst Church of England School.	2	2	4
Lickey Church of England School.	2	-	2
Catshill Junior Council School.	2	7	9
Natt Close Senior School.	2	1	3
Under School Age.	52	34	86
TOTALS.	100	102	202

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1939.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Resp.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 .. ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 ..	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
15- 25 ..	2	3	-	-	1	3	-	-
25- 35 ..	4	2	-	1	3	2	-	-
35- 45 ..	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45- 55 ..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
55 and onwards.	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
TOTALS:	7	8	1	2	7	7	-	1

I remain,  
Your obedient servant,

A.B.FOLLOWS.

Medical Officer of Health.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROMSGROVE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my second Annual Report on the work of the Department for the year 1939.

The report, is, of necessity, curtailed this year on account of the conditions prevailing. The year under review has been a strenuous one, and as a result of the war much additional work and responsibility has been placed upon the Department. From August until the end of the year very little sanitary inspection was carried out, only work of extreme urgency such as Meat and Food Inspection and investigations of urgent complaints and Infectious Disease, receiving any attention. This was due principally to the fact that as the Council's Chief Billeting Officer, I was responsible for the billeting of 1239 persons. Many changes had to take place, and much work, (administrative, clerical and visiting) was accomplished. I had the co-operation and help of the Clerk of the Council, the Housing Manager, teachers and helpers and my own staff in this onerous task for which I am very grateful, and when one looks back on the sacrifices made by everyone to meet all the wishes of evacuee and householder and compares it with present day results, namely 60 of this original batch of evacuees left in the District, it is, to say the least, far from encouraging. However, with the commencement of aerial bombardment during 1940, billeting comes to the fore once more and one again has to devote considerable time and energy to this work.

#### COMPLAINTS.

One hundred and twenty-four complaints have been received and investigated during the year.

#### INSPECTIONS.

The following is a list of inspections and re-inspections carried out:-

	Primary Inspections.	re- inspections.
Houses under Public Health Acts	142	207
Overcrowding ... ..	25	
Water Supply ... ..	21	113
Tents, Vans, Sheds ... ..	2	6
Schools ... ..	6	
Ashes Accommodation ... ..	106	228
Accumulations ... ..		3
Stable Premises ... ..	2	3
Yards, Courts, etc. ... ..		1
Piggeries ... ..	1	3
Drainage Inspections ... ..	111	164
Drainage Tests ... ..	18	
Closets - Water ... ..	31	82
Slop ... ..		5
Pails or Privies ... ..	60	20
Cesspools ... ..	37	43
Urinals ... ..	3	5
Sewers and Street Gullies ... ..	2	2
Cowsheds ... ..	5	1
Milkshops and Dairies ... ..	4	
Slaughterhouses for Meat Inspection.	757	
Food Preparing Premises ... ..	13	
General Food Premises ... ..	15	1
Factories - Mechanical ... ..	4	4
Factories - Non-mechanical ... ..	4	
Bakehouse ... ..	2	1
Shop Acts ... ..	2	15
Rats and Mice Acts ... ..	8	3
Verminous Premises ... ..	14	13
Infectious Diseases ... ..	195	17

		Primary Inspections.	re- inspections.
Housing - Section 9 ...	...	22	215
Section 11...	...	3	47
Section 25...	...	10	50
Other visits ...	...	50	6
Petroleum Act ...	...	9	
Totals ...		1684	1238

#### HOUSING.

During the year 24 houses were inspected under Section 9 of the Housing Act 1936 and Specifications were sent to owners in respect of each of these houses. 41 houses were rendered fit for habitation under this section.

One house was represented under Section 11 of the Housing Act. The Council agreed to allow the house to remain standing at present owing to war making the building of a new house difficult.

Five houses were rendered fit for habitation following the acceptance of undertakings under this section.

The rehousing of persons from the clearance areas was proceeded with during the year, the furniture and effects being moved by the Council and treated with Hydrogen Cyanide before being delivered to the new house. 56 of the houses in the confirmed orders were demolished.

#### MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

786 visits were made to slaughter-houses and other food premises for the inspection of meat and food.

The number of animals inspected in slaughterhouses was 468 cattle, 27 calves, 1691 sheep and lambs and 512 pigs. The following table sets out the diseases and conditions found in carcasses and offals condemned and surrendered:-

Disease.	Type of Animal.						
	Heif- ers. Lbs.	Bull- ocks. Lbs.	Cows Lbs.	Pigs Lbs.	Sheep Lbs.	Calves Lbs.	Total Lbs.
Tuberculosis	449	1078	177	528	-	-	2232
Distomatosis	22	33	-	-	-	-	55
Cirrhosis	-	-	-	10	-	-	10
Congestion	-	-	-	9	2	-	11
Pleurisy	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Pneumonia	-	-	-	6	-	-	6
Abscesses	10	44	-	7	-	-	61
Prurising	-	3	-	3	60	-	66
Moribund Condition	-	-	-	-	40	-	40
Echinococcus Cysts	20	42	10	-	-	-	72
Parasitical Cysts	-	-	-	-	13	-	13
Emaciation	-	-	-	-	109	-	109
Fatty Infiltration	-	11	-	-	17	-	28
Jaundice	-	-	-	-	77	-	77
Actinomycosis	-	27	-	-	-	-	27
Strongylus Rufescens	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Irritability	-	-	-	-	-	30	30
Totals for all diseases ...	501	1238	187	563	323	30	2842
Totals for all diseases except tuberculosis ...	52	160	10	35	323	30	610

Approximately 78 per cent of the meat condemned was affected with tuberculosis.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928

I obtained and submitted for analysis 29 samples of milk under the provisions of the Act. Three of the samples from the same purveyor were reported as deficient in fat. I obtained "Appeal to Cow" samples which proved to be satisfactory and legal proceedings were instituted, and fines amounting to £8 with £5. 15. 10 costs were inflicted.

#### WATER SUPPLIES

Continuing the action started in 1938 to sample well waters in the District, nineteen samples of well water were taken during the year and submitted to the County Analyst for chemical and bacteriological examination. The number of houses served by these wells was 29, three of the samples being repeat samples. Only two of these samples were reported as fit for drinking; of the remainder, thirteen were reported as unfit for drinking, and the remaining four as derived from a polluted source or unfit for continued drinking.

Of the houses served by unfit or suspicious supplies, seven were provided with supplies from the Company's main during the year, and in addition 27 other houses were provided with a wholesome water supply during the year, as a result of informal action commenced before the end of 1938.

#### SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

The following table records sanitary improvements effected during the year:-

Additional w.c's provided	...	...	...	...	12
Privies or pails converted to modern w.c's	...	...	...	...	30
Slop closets converted to w.c's with fresh water flush	...	...	...	...	16
Mechanical flushing facilities provided to closets	...	...	...	...	35
Defective w.c's remedied	...	...	...	...	46
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	13
New drainage provided	...	...	...	...	49
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	35
Drains trapped, ventilated and repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Obstructed drains dealt with	...	...	...	...	14
House-drains tested	...	...	...	...	64
Insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	...	...	...	...	19
Cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	27
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	150
Ashpits abolished	...	...	...	...	18
Polluted wells disused for domestic purposes	...	...	...	...	11
Number of houses with contaminated or deficient water supplies	...	...	...	...	39
dealt with	...	...	...	...	14
Verminous houses dealt with	...	...	...	...	14

#### NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH

	Served.		Complied with.	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Public Health Acts	159	6	159	0
Housing Act	24	0	41	2
Factories Act	7	0	6	0
Shops Acts	1	0	2	0
Milk & Dairies Order	2	0	1	0

PETROLEUM ACTS.

49 licences were renewed during 1939 for the storage of 113,424 gallons of petroleum spirit, and 7 new licences were granted for the storage of 4752 gallons.

The total quantity of petroleum spirit licenced to be stored was 118,176 gallons.

Three licences were renewed for the storage of 15,000 lbs. of carbide of calcium.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H.HOLDEN.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.